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 *
 * ANNUAL REPORT OF *
 *
 * THE MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEUR'S CLUB INC. *
 *
 * " Right in the Center of Things " *
 *
 * Affiliated with The American Radio Relay League Inc. *
 *
 * Season of 1923 --1924. *
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The Year just completed by the Milwaukee Radio Amateur's Club, Inc, has been one of the most successful, and I would not be overstepping the bounds of propriety if I said the most successful year the Club has ever had. This success is not due so much to the efforts of any one individual as to the co-operation existing between all members of the Club.

The Club is very fortunate in having at its head a man of very high ideals, unmistakable moral character, and great versatility. Under his able leadership and with the help of his chosen co-workers, the Club has mounted to the very pinnacle of success. The Club now possesses the distinction of being the foremost purely amateur radio club in the World. Its achievements are known everywhere.

It therefore gives me great pleasure to compile the following resume of the Club's progress and activities for the year 1923 - 1924.

Fred W. Catel, Secretary.

- - OFFICERS - -

Edward T. Howell, MSc., 9CWI, President.

M. F. Szukalski Jr. 9AAP, Vice President.

Fred W. Catel, 9DTK, Secretary.

Directors -

Clarence N. Crapo, 9VD.

Mark H. Doll, 9ALR.

Edwin A. Cary, 9ATO.

G. Forrest Metcalf, 9DXQ.

Erwin G. Nickel, 9ATO.

- - PROGRAMS - -

President Howell, who is also chairman of the program committee, secured some of the Nation's most famous and widely known radio men to speak before the Club.

At the meeting of Oct. 4th Mr. H. S. Olson of the Fansteel Products Co. gave a talk on chemical rectifiers.

On Oct. 18th Mr. J. H. Miller of the Jewell Electrical Instrument Co. explained the Measuring of Vacuum Tube Characteristics.

On Nov. 15th The Reverend John B. Kremer, S.J., M.A. Professor of Physics, Marquette University, gave a lecture on magnetism.

On Nov. 22nd Mr. Leroy E.M. Clausen, 9XN, of the Chicago Radio Laboratories described the design and construction of station WJAZ.

On Dec. 13th Mr. Karl E. Hassel, 9ZN, Research engineer of the Chicago Radio Laboratories spoke on the underlying characteristics of receiver design.

- - ANNUAL DINNER - -

The annual dinner, held at the Hotel Maryland Dec. 15th, was well attended. The orchestra rendered many popular selections during the evening. President Howell presided as toast master. The topic of co-operation between radio amateurs was very ably and thoroughly discussed by Mr. R.H.G. Mathews, Central Division Manager of the A.R.R.L. Mr. Fred Marco of Chicago then gave a very interesting and instructive talk on low loss tuners. Our old friend Mr. A.F. Parkhurst, Radio Inspector for the 9th district followed with reminiscences of an old time radio operator. The Club's activities and its plans for the future were then ably discussed by some of its officers. Following the talks a real old time "hamfest" was indulged in by all.

- - NEW YEAR - -

Jan. 3rd Mr. Jack Knight of the Western Electric Co. gave a talk on the radio activities of the Western Electric Co.

The Feb. 14th meeting was proclaimed "ECL Night" and was fittingly featured by five fine speeches by authorities on radio subjects. Mr. H. J. Marks, Technical Editor of Radio Digest talked on modern radio receiving circuits.

Mr. E. T. Flewelling, designing engineer of the Buell Mfg. Co., then followed with a talk on "The Efficiency of Modern Radio Apparatus."

Mr. David Grimes went into the history of Radio Telephony.

Mr. Frank D. Pearne, radio editor of the Chicago Herald and Examiner, gave some experiences of a radio editor.

Mr. M. Guernsey of Miloplex fame concluded with a humorous summary of the foregoing speakers.

Feb. 28th Mr. A. J. Helfrecht of the Burgess Battery Co., talked on the operating characteristics of dry cell radio batteries.

April 10th Mr. A. E. Laufer, 2 AQP, Secretary of the Bronx Radio Club of New York City, elaborated on the co-operation of the eastern and western amateurs.

May 1st, Mr. Flewelling again impressed the members of the club greatly by a talk on dielectric losses in transmitters and receivers.

- - MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE - -

Fred W. Catel, 9DTK, Chairman; Erwin G. Nickel, 9ATO; G. Forrest Metcalf, 9DXQ; Louis G. Prahl, ex 9WV; Chas. F. Quentin, 9CII.

- - REPORT - -

The membership committee was very active and 97 members were admitted to the club during the year. The membership committee is a very appreciative of the energetic co-operation of all members in securing new members. At the beginning of the season, the membership inaugurated a plan to give every member who secures five men, an A.R.R.L. pin. Near the close of the season there was organized an "In and Out Club", the object of which is to increase the membership. The first twenty members were taken from the membership list in alphabetic order and put into this club, and the only way that they could get out was to secure a new member. At the beginning of the season, there were 65 members in good standing, and the membership committee predicted that this number would be doubled in a short time. This was accomplished in about two months, and at the close of the season, the membership had been nearly tripled.

- - TECHNICAL COMMITTEE - -

G. Forrest Metcalf, 9DXQ, chairman; E. T. Howell, 9CVI; J. W. Blauert, 9ELV; Mark H. Doll, 9ALR; R. E. Lathrop, 9ATX; Lawrence A. Nelson, 9BHM.

- - REPORT - -

At the beginning of the year, the committee was not very active because of the absence of some of its members. The first work was done by Mr. R. E. Lathrop. In November, he gave a report on the efficiency of various battery chargers, showing the Tungar rectifier to have an efficiency of about 35% at best.

At about that date Mr. Metcalf gave a report on the nodal point, showing it to have a great effect on the efficiency of transmitters. On Dec. 29th, Mr. Blauert reported on the synchronous rectifier used at his station, 9ELV.

During this period the committee chairmen were Messrs. Doll and Gellerup, but as the first took over the management of Wis. District No. 1, and the latter had outside work, Mr. Metcalf was appointed chairman.

A report on the construction and design of amateur transformers was given by the chairman. Mr. Nelson gave a report on how to use burnt out Tungar tubes by starting them with high voltage on the filament.

- - LOW LOSS TUNER - -

The low loss tuner then came into prominence, and the committee reported favorably upon it. With it came the popularity of short waves and the various methods were reported with excellent results. Very low powers were used to work long distances. Reports on: The construction of Lattice Towers; Beveridge wire reception; transmitting inductances; and many other subjects with results of experiments on short waves around 5 to 50 meters, and reports on out of town stations were featured during the year.

As a whole, the year was very successful, but more interest by the members in research rather than message handling would have made it even more so.

Forrest Metcalf, chairman.

- PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE -

George J. Mueller, Chairman.

Robert E. Knoff.

George A. Coates.

This committee has, in the past year, received most of the radio magazines of the world that are printed in English. This has only been possible by the kind co-operation of the many publishers of these magazines. In addition to having copies of these magazines furnished free of charge, the Club has subscribed to Experimental Wireless, London; Radio ; Radio Journal; and Amateur Radio. Interesting articles in these magazines have been reported, and then the magazines were loaned to members for a week at a time. Mr. Knoff and Mr. Coates have done excellent work. Mr. Knoff, Radio Editor of the The Milwaukee Journal, has been of immense help in keeping the Club informed as to articles appearing in newspapers.

In all, the committee has received and reported on thirty-six magazines and newspaper supplements. In this total there are twenty-four from the United States, seven from England, three from Canada, and two from Australia.

The committee hopes to extend the scope of its activities to include publications from many other countries such as Porto Rico, New Zealand and France.

George J. Mueller, Chairman.

- TRAFFIC COMMITTEE -

M. F. Szukalski, Chairman.

Clarence M. Crapo, SVD.

Mark H. Doll, 9AIR.

The most important accomplishment of this committee was the establishment of the BADGER A R R L NEWS edited by Mr. Crapo, A.D.M. Wisconsin, from the traffic reports received from all parts of the state. This is a monthly mimeographed bulletin distributed to all stations reporting and serves to stimulate regular reporting as well as disseminating news.

During the severe winter storms a number of the club members rendered valuable service to the railroads and newspapers. Among those who handled this important traffic are E.T. Howell, 9CWI, and W.G. Nichols, 9ATC.

In conjunction with the Publicity Committee and the Milwaukee Journal, an experiment in news gathering was carried on in the form of a prize contest resulting in an increase in message and publicity totals.

Through the official A.R.R.L. broadcasting station 9AAP, various news bulletins were transmitted, and its owner, Mr. Szukalski, as city manager rendered valuable assistance to the Radio Inspector in his work of promoting co-operation between broadcast listeners and transmitting amateurs.

- PUBLICITY AND BUSINESS MANAGERS REPORT -

Publicity was handled the first half of the year by L. S. Hillegas-Baird, 9HO Business Manager. Releases were at that time standardized, the following being a few of the types. Weekly announcements of the meetings and special idea articles; The former were for use about Wednesday and the latter for Sundays in Milwaukee papers. Monthly a review article of some length was prepared and sent to all English and American radio periodicals.

During Mr. Hillegas-Baird's absence the work was turned over to Mark H. Doll 9AIR who was requested to co-operate with the Milwaukee Journal in editing their Ham Chatter column. Mr. Charles S. Polacheck, 9AMP, then took up the work and was appointed City Correspondent in the League's News Department. News by Radio was instituted, and the news end was handled by Mr. Polacheck.

The success of this work may be judged when it is said that Mr. Polacheck was the star C.C. in the League's News Department.

- TREASURER'S REPORT -

At the beginning of the season, the treasury contained \$20.00. During the year \$150.00 was collected and the greater part of it spent for Stationery, postage, printing and secretarial supplies. A Mimeographing equipment was also purchased. The remaining balance is \$30.00.

E. W. Ruppenthal, Treasurer.

- NOTICE -

The regular meetings of the Club will be resumed Thursday evening, September 18th in the Trustee's Room of the Milwaukee Public Museum.

- ERRATA -

Through a regrettable error in compiling this report, the names of E. W. Ruppenthal, 9AYA, Treasurer, and L. S. Hillegas-Baird, 9HE, Business Manager, were omitted from the list of officers.